

serves. It is about time that Black women and girls across the country can finally see someone who looks like them sitting on the highest Court, making decisions that will impact their lives—our lives. And they will know that the possibility is there for them.

I close by noting that during the hearing, Judge Jackson told the committee that as a freshman at Harvard, she wondered whether she could fit in or whether she could make it, and a Black woman she didn't know leaned into her as they were walking by, probably in Harvard Yard, and said to Judge Jackson—she wasn't a judge then: "Persevere." That is something that a lot of us can relate to: perseverance, including myself, who came to this country as a poor immigrant kid, persevering to learn the language, to learn the culture of a country I knew nothing about. Judge Jackson being on the Supreme Court would send such a powerful message of perseverance to everyone in this country.

I will be honored to vote to confirm Judge Jackson. I look forward to calling her Justice Jackson.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS JAYHAWKS MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2022 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I am on the floor of the U.S. Senate today to congratulate and to commend the University of Kansas men's basketball team on its national championship victory. This is KU's fourth NCAA national championship title, the second under the tenure of Hall of Fame Head Coach Bill Self.

The University of Kansas's men's basketball program boasts a storied history and track record of excellence and success, and the inventor of the game of basketball, Dr. James Naismith, served as the program's first coach.

KU can also now boast having the most NCAA victories of any Division I basketball program in the country in addition to now four—four—NCAA championships.

It is moments like this that Kansans remember forever. Whether you are watching the game from your living room, on the jumbotron at Allen Fieldhouse, or from your favorite hangout on Mass Street, 10, 20, 30 years from now, Kansans from across the country will remember where they were on April 4, 2022, when KU clinched the national title in a nail-biting game against North Carolina's Tar Heels.

It was the KU men's basketball team that inspired me to go to the University of Kansas when I was in high

school. I am a first-generation college graduate, and the University of Kansas was probably not the place that most of my peers and friends from my small town in Northwest Kansas went to. But, no, it wasn't because I was recruited to play basketball for the basketball team; it was that I had the opportunity to attend on my first visit to the University of Kansas a basketball game in Allen Fieldhouse. From that one game, I knew this was where I wanted to go to college. The energy and excitement of KU basketball inspired me, encouraged me, caused me to wonder—and I think it is true of countless others, to decide they wanted to be a Jayhawk.

On Monday night, KU rallied to overcome a deficit of 15 points at halftime to beat North Carolina 72 to 69—the largest comeback in an NCAA basketball national championship game. I am not sure what Coach Bill Self—but I am going to ask him—I am not sure what Coach Self said to his players in the locker room during that halftime, but in true Kansas fashion, the KU Jayhawks came back and beat the odds to clinch the championship. The team showed tremendous heart, determination, and resolve in that comeback victory.

KU's Ochai Agbaji scored 12 points and was named "Most Outstanding Player" of the Final Four.

Kansas forward David McCormack scored 15 points and had 10 rebounds and made 2 critical baskets late in the game.

Kansas forward Jalen Wilson scored 15 points and had 4 rebounds.

Kansas guard Remy Martin contributed 14 points to help the Jayhawks secure the title.

Kansas guard Christian Braun of Burlington, KS—a smalltown, middle-of-the-State native—scored 12 points and had 12 rebounds, demonstrating to other smalltown athletes like him that they, too, could be a star in the Nation's biggest tournament in college basketball.

Jordan Juenemann, a former walk-on for the Jayhawks men's basketball team from my hometown of Hays, noted that this 2022 championship team might not be the best according to the stats, but they played like a team. They care about the game, and they care about each other. Only a team that sees the glass half full could come back after being down 16 points and clinch the victory. This speaks to the team's perseverance and belief in themselves.

Coach Keith Riley, a basketball coach from Hill City, KS, in the western part of our State—I visited with him the other day, and he pointed out to me the lesson that kids around the State will take away from Monday night: You may not always have all of the best players on the court at the same time, and you may not have all the talent that is out there on that court, but you can still find ways to be successful because of how hard you work.

My guess is that kids, ever since Monday, back home in Kansas and maybe across the country, are in their driveway, they are at the school basketball court, and they are shooting free throws or 3-point shots one after another. It inspires us to know that we can do more, and the University of Kansas basketball team is inspiring kids today to go out and work harder.

I commend these players and the entire Kansas Jayhawks men's basketball team, as well as the coaches and staff, for their hard work which culminated in this victory.

While these young men on the team may be known for their talent on the court, many should be recognized for the adversity they faced off court. Dajuan Harris, KU's point guard, has overcome tremendous loss in his 21 years. He lost both his father and his brother just a few years apart, and Sunday night, he came out and he played for them.

These young men came to college to play some great basketball, but along the way, they are learning how to give back to their community. At Christmas time, this team goes to the local Walmart and purchases Christmas presents for families who might be facing financial hardship. They learn the important lesson of giving back to their community.

Finally, to Coach Bill Self, I know you are probably still feeling that very deep loss—and maybe even more so on Monday night—of your father, who died just recently—Bill Self, Sr.—but you can be sure he is smiling down with pride on you and your whole team. You took his advice. He advised you:

Don't worry about the mules, just load the wagon.

As a graduate of the University of Kansas, as a Kansan, I share the excitement of Jayhawks fans across the world in Sunday night's stunning achievement, and I am pleased to introduce this resolution with Senator MARSHALL to honor this achievement.

To my fellow Jayhawks, "Rock Chalk."

Mr. President, I am pleased that on such a bipartisan basis, in cooperation between Republicans and Democrats—something I know Kansans and Americans don't see enough of—this resolution normally would take a few more days than it has taken to get to the U.S. Senate this week. I am pleased that both the Republican and Democrat leadership and their staff worked with us in cooperation to be able to commend the Jayhawks this early this week.

So, Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 578, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 578) commending and congratulating the University of Kansas

Jayhawks men's basketball team for winning the 2022 National Collegiate Athletic Association Basketball National Championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MORAN. With a neighboring Col-oradan in the chair and a former part of the Big 12 Conference, Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 578) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. MORAN. Thank you.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I stand here to proudly support Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Nation has had the opportunity to watch Judge Jackson during her confirmation hearing 2 weeks ago and see firsthand the temperament, knowledge of the law, and qualifications she brings to the highest Court in the land. She will be a fair and impartial jurist, just as she has proven herself to be on the district court and on the DC Circuit Court of Appeals.

President Biden made a commitment before he was elected to appoint the first Black woman to the Supreme Court. Judge Jackson's historic nomination is long overdue.

It was in my home State of New York where Constance Baker Motley became the first Black woman to be a Federal judge—in the Southern District.

Having diverse representation on the Court does not mean someone will rule a certain way, and it doesn't mean that is why they deserve to be on the Bench. It is important because it strengthens our institutions. It is critical because it shows who we are as a nation, and it makes a difference to the girls and women across the country, who will now have a role model and know that they can aspire to do the same.

That is why President Biden made that promise because he knew that it was beyond time to ensure the Supreme Court has that representation; and it is clear that Judge Jackson will be a highly qualified Justice to fulfill that promise.

Who we confirm to the Supreme Court matters. While the work of the Court may feel distant from our daily decisions and day-to-day lives, the Supreme Court actually makes key decisions on whether individuals are protected when they go to school, work, or out in public; on who can and how we can cast our votes to determine our elected officials; on whether our future generations will have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink; on who we can choose to marry; and on what decisions women can make about their own bodies and their reproductive future.

The nine Justices on the Supreme Court make important decisions that impact all Americans; and in the Senate, in our advice and consent role, we have a critical role to play in ensuring that we confirm Justices who follow the rule of law and provide equal justice to all.

The perspectives Judge Jackson will bring to the highest Court of the land, both personally and professionally, will have a critical impact on all Americans. Judge Jackson will bring to the Bench significant criminal defense experience as a former public defender. She will also bring nearly a decade of judicial experience to her rulings.

When I met Judge Jackson, I asked her which of her experiences have prepared her most for this moment to serve on the Supreme Court if she was confirmed. She answered by talking about her clerkships, which she completed at each level of the judiciary: the district court; First Circuit Court of Appeals; and for Supreme Court Justice Breyer, whose seat she is being nominated to fill. She talked about how she learned from others how to serve as a judge. She experienced firsthand what it means to fulfill the constitutional requirement of being a member of our Nation's Federal judiciary.

I know that Judge Jackson will bring all of those perspectives and meaningful experiences with her to the Supreme Court, and those are critically needed on the highest Court of our land. It is those experiences and her record that have led to Judge Jackson's nomination receiving broad support—from the civil and human rights community to the law enforcement community and from colleagues in the judiciary nominated by Presidents of both parties, to name just a few. Given the fact that she was confirmed three times before this body with bipartisan support, the Senate should be able to once again confirm her with votes from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

I look forward to enthusiastically casting my vote in support of Judge Jackson's confirmation to the Supreme Court of the United States. I urge my colleagues to join me and support her nomination as well.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I have come to the floor today to go into a little bit more detail about why I will not be voting for and in favor of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's confirmation to the Supreme Court.

Now, as we have all heard and as we appreciate, there is no doubt that Judge Jackson is highly educated; she has an impressive resume; she is cordial; she was very gracious with her time, but as I listened to her responses over a 2-day period of time, I was really dissatisfied with the specifics.

As I got home to Tennessee and talked to Tennesseans, they had wanted to hear specifics from her and were disappointed that she did not come forward with those specifics.

My colleague Senator DURBIN, helpfully, pointed out this morning that Judge Jackson did, indeed, make the rounds up here prior to her hearing. Yes, indeed, she did do that. She came to my office, and we spent about an hour together talking about her record. I, of course, didn't give her a list of questions to study, but I did clue her in on some of the things that I thought were going to be important for us to discuss.

Some are items we had discussed when she came before us for her appellate court hearing. Some of those things we never got a complete answer to, but we needed to get that complete answer. This is a lifetime appointment, and it was disappointing that we did not, even now, get that complete answer.

What I have learned is, normally—as we at Judiciary Committee conduct these hearings for judges for the Federal bench, for Supreme Court nominees—they walk into the hearing room, and they are prepared. They kind of come loaded with their remarks and their answers. They have a general idea of what is going to come their way from different ones of us because we have spent the time meeting with them individually, making certain that they know what is going to be important.

So there is no doubt she knew that I was going to press her on her lack of a clear articulation on a judicial philosophy, and she knew that there were concerns and criticisms of her record and some of the decisions that she had made. She knew that we would ask tough constitutional law questions about abortion, substantive due process, and interstate commerce.

And I know that I—and I think most of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee—would say that I expect nominees to be familiar with all of these things, to have an opinion and be willing to share that opinion. This is an appointment, as I said a moment ago, a lifetime appointment to the